

Chatham Township Environmental Commission  
58 Meyersville Rd, Chatham, NJ 07928, 973-635-4600

Minutes of the Tuesday, January 6, 2009 CTEC Meeting

The meeting of the Chatham Township Environmental Commission convened at 7:15 pm on Tuesday, January 6, 2009 at the Township Municipal Building. In attendance were CTEC members L. Caprioglio, P. Collington, O. Raadam, CTEC members to be reappointed January 7, 2009 S. Carroll and D. Stillinger – and Township Committee Liaison W. O'Connor

CTEC'S PURPOSE (N.J.S.A. 40:56A, 1968): to undertake projects and make recommendations concerning the protection or use of natural resources, including water resources, located within or directly affecting Chatham Township.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT -- The meeting schedule for 2009 was posted on the main bulletin board at the Township municipal building. The public is cordially invited to attend all meetings and participate in projects.

Minutes

December 2, 2008 meeting minutes to be approved at next meeting.

**DATES FOR 2009 AND JANUARY 2010.**

Every first Tuesday: Feb 3, Mar 3, Apr 7, May 5, June 2, July - no meeting, Aug 4, Sept 1, Oct 6, Nov 3, Dec 1 in 2009, and Jan 5, 2010.

**AWARDS**

- NJ Clean Communities Award presented to CTEC on May 22, 2008 by the NJ Clean Communities Council for the Commission's Riverside Cleanup project. S.Hoag.
- ANJEC Environmental Awards for 2008 to CTEC: Environmental Achievement Award for Township energy and emission inventory performed by S. Carroll and K. Abbott. Environmental Achievement Commendation for Back2Tap program to limit use of plastic water bottles, directed by P. Collington and K. Abbott.

**GRATEFUL THANKS TO OUTGOING CTEC MEMBERS PAUL PAYTON AND LEANN TAVTIGIAN!**

Paul and LeAnn gave many hours of outstanding service to the Chatham Township Environmental Commission during their terms of office. The Commission extends its warmest gratitude and hopes they will stay in contact and offer any insights they wish.

**EVENTS**

**• THURSDAY EVENING SALON SERIES- ART FOR CHANGING THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT**

Thursday January 15, 2009.

Presented by Kathy Bruce, Artist and Fine Arts Lecturer, MFA Yale University School of Art and Architecture. The international community recognizes the universal language of art as a powerful creative tool in helping our critically endangered global environment. You'll be educated and empowered as you look at contemporary artists whose eco-interventions address today's environmental issues. Fee: \$12 adults/\$5 High School/College student.

All programs take place in the Eisenberg Gallery at the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey, Summit  
68 Elm St., Summit, NJ 07901, 908-273-9121, fax 908-273-1457, [info@artcenternj.org](mailto:info@artcenternj.org)

- JCP&L SREC HEARING to investigate purchase of solar renewable energy certificates from owners of solar generation projects and possible residential rate increase. Wed. Jan. 21 at 4 PM and 5:30 PM at the Morris County Administration building, 2123 Court St., Morristown, 5th floor public meeting room.
- SEAMLESS regional transportation workshop every 4th Tuesday at 8 AM in Madison at Madison Library until the new municipal facilities are finished with construction. Regional transportation is an environmental issue.
- RUTGERS ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARD TRAINING. Training Location: Essex County Environmental Center, Roseland, NJ. Normal Class Time: Thursdays, January to May, 2008; 10:30 to 2:00 pm. Cost: \$250. Contact: Jan Zientek, [Zientek@rce.rutgers.edu](mailto:Zientek@rce.rutgers.edu), Program Coordinator, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Essex County, 621-A Eagle Rock Ave., Roseland, NJ 07068, (973) 228-2210. Information at [envirostewards.rutgers.edu](http://envirostewards.rutgers.edu).
- ANJEC WORKSHOP on new state wetlands and flood hazard area regulations. Monday, Feb. 9, 7:30 - 10 PM, Montclair. Probably free to CTEC members. Call ANJEC at 973-539-7547 for info.
- TOUR OF THE NEW TECH ELECTRONICS RECYCLING FACILITY in Somerset is scheduled for Thursday March 5 at 11 a.m.
- NEW JERSEY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION ANNUAL RALLY. March 7, 2009. Hyatt Regency New Brunswick. [www.njconservation.org/rally](http://www.njconservation.org/rally).
- Electronics recycling events. CTEC electronics recycling events in 2009 to be held on Saturday May 2, 2009 and Saturday October 3, 2009.

## APPLICATION/LOI REVIEW

- NEW. 25 HICKORY PLACE. 12-1-09. Block 48.17, Lot 126.02. R-3C zone. Application to Planning Board from Chatham Hill Apartments to replace the swimming pool. CTEC discussed lot coverage, deer deterrent plantings and vegetated detention basin. Commission members to email questions to L. Caprioglio who will address with John Ruschke, Twp. Engineer.
- PENDING. CHATHAM DAY SCHOOL. 700 Shunpike Road. 10-31-08. Block 135, Lots 1 & 9. Application to the Board of Adjustment for preliminary and final site plan approval, two conditional use variances, hardship c(1) variance for steep slopes disturbance, to demolish 3 buildings and build two new buildings with associated parking areas. Impervious cover of 16.1% is proposed, 15% allowed. 9,995 s.f. (8.7%) of slopes between 20%-25% proposed to be disturbed, 1,151 s.f. (1%) allowed. Comment memo by S. Hoag sent to Board of Adjustment.
- PENDING. 296 LAFAYETTE AVE. 10-8-08. Block 106, Lot 18. Application to Planning Board for amendment to deed restriction in order to construct a deck and walkways. Former Lyons property which had a four-family house. P. Collington. - Letter from John Ruschke, Twp. Engineer to be forward to applicant.
- PENDING. 7 SYCAMORE DRIVE. 4-30-08. Block 38, lot 42.05. Devco Associates, LLC. Application to heard by Planning Board on 1/26/09 regarding amended final site plan approval. Information submitted to the EC is not sufficient to understand what applicant is requesting.
- CLOSED. ROSEPOND/VALLE ESTATES. 10-23-08. Block 135, Lots 19 & 19.01. Application to Planning Board to allow construction vehicles to enter the project from Green Village Rd. The prohibition against construction vehicles entering the property from Green Village Road was set forth in a note on the final approved site plan. John Linson, Township forester, noted that the conservation easement has been violated in that area. Planning Board approved application.
- CLOSED. EVERGREEN ROAD. 11-20-08. Block 50, Lot 6. LOI application to NJDEP. R-3 (1/2 acre residential). 0.65 acre. i-MapNJ identifies areas on the other side and near the end of Evergreen Road as suitable habitat for Barred Owl (State threatened), Cooper's Hawk (State threatened), Red-shouldered Hawk (State endangered). Part of parcel may have been filled, wetlands soil may still be detectable. Letter to NJDEP has been mailed. D. Stillinger, S. Hoag.
- CLOSED. CHATHAM TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT. #2. 172 Southern Boulevard. 11-13-08. Block 102.11, Lot 1. Planning Board approved site plan for expansion of existing building. At the Planning Board meeting on 11-17-08 CTEC suggested that a rain garden (aka vegetated detention basin) be constructed to slow stormwater in the drainage on the north side of the building.
- PENDING. ST. HUBERT'S. 9-23-08. Block 142, Lot 4.01. Application to Board of Adjustment for final site plan approval to expand existing facility. Conservation easement to NJDEP on wetlands and transition areas required as a condition. At its meeting on 11-20-08 the Board of Adjustment was requested by CTEC to require applicant to present the Board with a copy of the recorded deed of conservation easement before granting final approval. Applicant said it will record the NJDEP conservation easement before starting construction as required by the NJDEP. Applicant agreed to give a conservation easement to Chatham Township on the wetlands and transition areas. Monuments will be installed.
- PENDING. REXCORP. 3-31-08. Block 142 Lots 1 & 2 in Chatham Township, and Block 3303 Lot 2 in Madison. Application to NJDEP for Freshwater Wetlands Permits: GP#6 (activities disturbing up to 1 acre in isolated wetlands), GP#10A (very minor road crossing), Transition Area Averaging Plan Waiver, for a 2-phase development to create a pump-station, Giralda Farms Concert Series concert park, sanitary sewer lines, and office space. EC letters to NJDEP sent 7-18-07 and 5-6-08. Waiting for reply from NJDEP concerning vernal pools on the property.
- PENDING. OAK KNOLL SCHOOL. 9-11-07. Public hearing held 9-11-07 concerning request to break the DEP conservation easement on the Oak Knoll school property at Hickory Tree in order to replace an existing stormwater pipe. DEP permit received, work to start soon.

## REPORTS & DISCUSSION

- Artificial turf – draft letter to be submitted to K. Tubbs & W. O'Connor for review. K. Abbott
- Hickory Tree Mall recycling, including Carnaby Street Salon, for bottles and cans and paper other than cardboard. Contact is Sal DeVino at Fidelity Management Company. K. Abbott & P. Collington to meet with K. Tubbs & W. O'Connor to discuss recycling and enforcement issues at mall.
- New Tech electronics recycling facility tour in Somerset, Thursday March 5 at 11 a.m. (advertise on twp. Website).
- Planning Board report – reorganization meeting next week. Two new applications to review. COAH recommendations sent to State, no comment back as of yet. L. Caprioglio.
- Township Committee report – Bike path to be completely finished in spring (plantings & guard rail to be installed). Twp Committee reorganization scheduled 1/7/09, new Environmental Commission appointments Alternate #1 & #2, also reappointment of D. Stillinger and S. Carroll. Shunpike Field – need to confer with borough regarding high costs. W. O'Connor.
- Education and Outreach subcommittee report – working on reaching out to the public youth, to work on creating videos regarding many environmental topics. CTEC members to email topics of interest to Pat. P. Collington.
- Energy subcommittee report. Waiting for Administrator to approval application. S. Carroll.

- Ground Water Protection Committee meeting on December 11, 2008 – membership down, CTEC concluded that occasional monthly meetings can be attended. P. Collington.
- Leaf blowing discussion – topics included health related issues from fumes, noise concerns related to time-of-day use, enforcement of contracted landscapers working on Sunday, consider establishing an ordinance (similar to Montclair).
- Site visit on 11-13-08 to Chatham Township-owned parcels on Green Village Road having a conservation easement held by the New Jersey Conservation Foundation. Attendees included Sieglinde Mueller, NJCF Easement Steward, D. Stillinger from CTEC, F. Stillinger, Vice-chair of the Great Swamp Watershed Association. Observed were extensive mowing of wetlands, mowing extended to edge of stream leaving no vegetated buffer. New NJ water quality management plan rules require a 50 foot buffer on all streams.
- Conservation easement on-the-ground baseline data collection project. Gunn property at 47 Ormont Road (the parcel that was the subject of an easement violation notice to Mr. Gunn) has been sold. Should a letter be sent to the new owners informing them of the conservation easement on their property?

All conservation easements are on a map on the Township GIS web site. Standardize a conservation easement agreement form. Recommend Township adopt an ordinance requiring applicants to grant a conservation easement to the Township on all wetlands with a NJDEP conservation easement. Linson data collection has been completed. L. Caprioglio, S. Hoag, D. Stillinger.

#### RECENT LETTERS SENT

- December 2008: Evergreen Road to NJDEP and applicant, conservation easement findings letter to property owner Block 20 Lot 20, comment letter on Chatham Day School to Board of Adjustment.
- November 2008. 689 Shunpike Road to NJDEP, 494 Southern Boulevard to NJDEP.
- October 2008. 27 Pembroke Road to NJDEP, 11 Wickham Way to NJDEP, Green Village Firehouse to NJDEP.
- September 2008. Letter to Chatham Athletic Foundation suggesting alternatives to crumb rubber for artificial turf.
- May 2008. 47 & 51 Ormont Road to Planning Board, Verizon cell tower in Green Village to Board of Adjustment, 428 River Road to NJDEP, 49 Woodmont Drive to NJDEP, RexCorp re vernal pools to NJDEP.

#### MAIL RECEIVED (not including applications and notices mentioned above)

- Invoice from ANJEC for 2009 membership dues. \$280 for 7 CTEC members plus \$60 for workshop plan. Total \$340.
- Grant application form from Garden Club of Somerset Hills.
- CTEC expense statement January 2008 through mid-December 2008.
- Groundwater protection guide in electronic form from the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association, courtesy of Abbie Fair.
- Minutes of Long Hill EC and Chatham Borough EC, various newsletters, event announcements, and flyers.

CTEC MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:00 PM.

Carolyn Scannelli  
Minutes Secretary